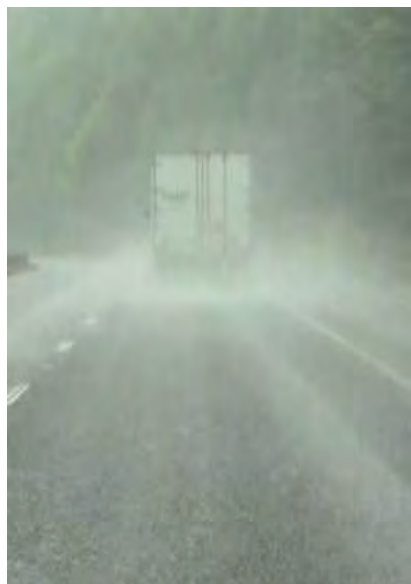


Montana Traffic Education and Training

Module 3.4 Fact Sheet: Share the Road

Student Activity 1

You will watch a series of slides and video and during that time you will begin to identify the unique characteristics of different HTS users—pedestrians, bicyclists, motorized vehicles and trucks. Your job is to understand how those unique characteristics affect the way you share the road with them.



Brainstorm Activity

Montana is a big state with many different climates and landscapes. Each of those influence how people use the roads and highways. Working in groups of two or three identify how each of the following impacts how you share the road with others.

Snow, Rain, Hail, Thunderstorms, Wind Gusts, Sun glare, Fog, Dust, Sunset, Sunrise, Night Time, Nice Weather with Good Visibility.

Think in terms of your speed, space, communication, and time to make decisions. Also consider the effect these conditions have on the other vehicles and what they might do when you pass them from the opposite direction or when you

are following them on a snowy or rainy day. There are many things that can happen so try to identify as many as you can.

Sharing the Road

Remember Find, Solve, and Control from Module 5? We need to use it effectively to share the road with other HTS users. Driving is about decision making and critical thinking. Sharing the road is solving the problem by seeing it, formulating solutions and then creating space and time to safely share the road.

Find We first need to FIND or see the changes ahead of us and respond to the HTS user's unique characteristics to help us build strategies for interacting courteously with other HTS users.

Knowing the unique characteristics of each HTS user will help us solve the space and time issue. We need to know what those characteristics are to help know what to do. For instance, a pedestrian takes up a lot less space than a semi-truck and trailer but the pedestrian is much more vulnerable to injury if we misjudge the space or time need. We may be in danger if we don't anticipate the space need of the semi-truck during a turn in tight spaces.

Solve

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Control There are some underlying assumptions we need to make when we encounter different HTS users. For instance, when you pass a skateboarder who is using the bike lane are they riding “goofy” or normal? If they are riding “goofy” can they see you approaching from behind as easily as if they are riding normal? If not they may move into your path of travel and be in danger. The best option for both of you is to check to see if you have room to separate yourself from the skateboarder and to lower your risk. If you do, move into that space. If not, you need to slow down.

Resources

You may wonder what laws and support materials are out there that guide us on how to share the road. The following is a short list of places to look for information regarding driving laws.

Department of Justice Motor Vehicle Laws

<https://doj.mt.gov/driving/>

Department of Justice Driver Licensing

<https://doj.mt.gov/driving/driver-licensing/>

Trucks

<http://www.sharetheroadsafely.gov/>

Construction Zones

http://www.workzonesafety.org/public_awareness

Motorcycle Safety

<http://www.forcardrivers.com/>

Bicycle Safety

<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/bikeped/bikesafety.shtml>

Montana Share the Road Brochure

http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/brochures/share_the_road.pdf

This is not a complete list but will give you a start to finding the information you need.